UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,267	12/03/2001	Alain Jean Falys	448/9-1621	2061

7590 08/20/2007
William J. Sapone, Esq.
Coleman Sudol Supone
714 Colorado Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605-1601

EXAMINER
CHANDLER, SARA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3693	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	10/006,267	FALYS ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Sara Chandler	3693	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>13 June 2007</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>18-46</u> is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>18-46</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/01/02</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's election without traverse of Invention II, claims 18-46 in the reply filed

on 06/13/07 is acknowledged.

This Office Action is responsive to Applicant's arguments and request for

reconsideration of application 10/006,267 (12/03/01) filed on 03/28/07.

Claim Interpretation

1. In determining patentability of an invention over the prior art, all claim limitations

have been considered and interpreted as broadly as their terms reasonably allow. See

MPEP § 2111.

> Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from
> the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988
> F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

> Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution,
> and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim,
> once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. *In re Pruter*, 415
> F.2d 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541, 550-51 (CCPA 1969). See MPEP § 2111.

2. All claim limitations have been considered. Additionally, all words in the claims have

been considered in judging the patentability of the claims against the prior art. The

following language is interpreted as not further limiting the scope of the claimed

invention. See MPEP 2106 II C.

Language in a method claim that states only the intended use or intended result

(e.g., "*for_____*"), but the expression does not result in a manipulative

difference in the steps of the claim. Language in a system claim that states only the

intended use or intended result (e.g., "for _____"), but does not result in a

structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art. In other words, if

the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

Claim limitations that contain statement(s) such as "*if, may, might, can could*", as

optional language. As matter of linguistic precision, optional claim elements do not

narrow claim limitations, since they can always be omitted.

Claim limitations that contain statement(s) such as "*wherein, whereby*", that fail to

further define the steps or acts to be performed in method claims or the discrete

physical structure required of system claims.

> USPTO personnel should begin claim analysis by identifying and evaluating each
> claim limitation. For processes, the claim limitations will define steps or acts to
> be performed. For products, the claim limitations will define discrete physical
> structures or materials. Product claims are claims that are directed to either
> machines, manufactures or compositions of matter. See MPEP § 2106 II C.

> The subject matter of a properly construed claim is defined by the terms that limit
> its scope. It is this subject matter that must be examined. As a general matter,
> the grammar and intended meaning of terms used in a claim will dictate whether
> the language limits the claim scope. Language that suggests or makes optional
> but does not require steps to be performed or does not limit a claim to a
> particular structure does not limit the scope of a claim or claim limitation. The
> following are examples of language that may raise a question as to the limiting
> effect of the language in a claim:

>> (A) statements of intended use or field of use,
>> (B) "adapted to" or "adapted for" clauses,
>> (C) "wherein" clauses, or
>> (D) "whereby" clauses.

See MPEP § 2106 II C.

3. Independent claims are examined together, since they are not patentable distinct. If applicant expressly states on the record that two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in a single application, the Examiner may require the applicant to elect an invention to which the claims will be restricted.

Claim Objections

Claims 18 and 33 are objected to because of the following informalities: .

Claim 18 recites, "output processing means for processing said invoices in said intermediate form, produced by the input processing means, within said invoice routing apparatus, into invoices in selected forms,"

The limitation is grammatically awkward (e.g, "the sentence structure is difficult to follow). Please review grammar and 112 issues.

Claim 33 recites: "receiving an invoice at said router, said invoice being transmitted from said transmitter; electronically processing said received invoice within said router into an intermediate form having predetermined characteristics, said processing depending in dependence on the an identity of the a raiser of the invoice;"

The limitation is grammatically awkward (e.g, "said processing depending in dependence on" is repetitive). Please review grammar and 112 issues.

Claim 33 recites: "electronically processing said intermediate form invoice within said router into an invoice in a secondary form selected in dependence on the according to an identity of the a party receiving said invoice being invoiced;"

The limitation is grammatically awkward (e.g, Is this depending on an identity of a party receiving said invoice in a secondary form?). Please review grammar and 112 issues.

Claim 33 recites: "sending said invoice from said router in said selected for secondary form to the receiver its destination."

The limitation is grammatically awkward (e.g, Should the "for" be there?). Please review grammar and 112 issues.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 18-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has submitted amendments (Claims- 03/28/07) and made arguments (Remarks- 03/28/07). regarding the novelty of processing internally within the router itself. Support for the amendment cannot be found in the disclosure and Applicant has not indicated where support can be found.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 18-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18 and 33 recites the limitation "the an identity", "the a raiser", "the a

party". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The

phrases are grammatically awkward. Since there is no antecedent basis, should the

"the" be there?

Claims 18 and 33 recites the limitation "each invoice" "said invoice", "the invoice".

The language is indefinite because it is unclear which invoice is referred to and/or which

form.

Dependent claims are further rejected based on the same rationale as the claims

from which they depend.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* v. *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148

USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining

obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.

    4.   Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating
obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 18 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Francis, US Pat. No. 6,426,952 and Pasetes, US Pat. No. 5,202,977.

Re Claims 18: Francis discloses a routing apparatus (Francis, abstract, col. 1,

line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line

2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line

61) comprising:

receiving means for receiving data (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35;

col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col.

27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61);

input processing means for processing received data within said routing apparatus into

an intermediate form having predetermined characteristics, the processing of the data

being dependent on the identity of the data (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14,

line 35; col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-

32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61);

output processing means for processing the data in said intermediate form, produced by

the input processing means, within said routing apparatus, into data in selected forms,

the processing of the data in said intermediate form being dependent on the an identity

of the a party receiving the data (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col.

17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27,

line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61); and

transmission means for transmitting data, produced by the output processing means

from said routing apparatus to their destinations (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col.

14, line r5; col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26,

lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61).

Francis fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the

routing apparatus is an invoice routing apparatus.

Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the routing

apparatus is an invoice routing apparatus.

(Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43;

col. 20, lines 47-51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the teachings of Francis by adopting the teachings of Pasetes to

provide wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the routing apparatus is an invoice

routing apparatus.

As suggested by Pasetes one would have been motivated by speed, accuracy,

cost reduction, productivity, simplified and more direct communication and data

integration.

Re Claim 33: Francis discloses an routing method for routing data over a

network having a transmitter, a router and a receiver (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + -

col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26,

lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61), said

method comprising:

receiving data at said router, said data being transmitted from said transmitter (Francis,

abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+ - col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line

8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+

- col. 41, line 61);

electronically processing said received data within said router into an intermediate form

having predetermined characteristics, said processing depending in dependence on the

identity of the data (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+

- col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ -

col. 28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61);

electronically processing said intermediate form data within said router into data in a

secondary form selected in dependence on the according to the identity of a party

receiving the data (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+ -

col. 18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col.

28, line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61); and

sending said data from said router in said selected for secondary form to the receiver its

destination (Francis, abstract, col. 1, line 1 + - col. 14, line 35; col. 17, line 52+ - col.

18, line 50; col. 21, line 8+ - col. 23, line 2; col. 26, lines 8-32; col. 27, line 28+ - col. 28,

line 21; col. 29, line 23+ - col. 41, line 61).

Francis fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the

routing method is an invoice routing method.

Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the routing method

is an invoice routing method.

(Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43;

col. 20, lines 47-51).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the teachings of Francis by adopting the teachings of Pasetes to

provide Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice and wherein the routing

method is an invoice routing method.

As suggested by Pasetes one would have been motivated by speed, accuracy,

cost reduction, productivity, simplified and more direct communication and data

integration.

Claims 19-20,23-30, 34-35, and 38-45 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Francis and Pasetes as applied to claims 18 and 33 above, and

further in view of Hamlin, EP 0928090.

Re Claims 19,23,24,27 and 28: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed

invention supra but fails to explicitly disclose means storing a plurality of input invoice

mapping definitions, wherein the input processing means is configured to select an input

invoice mapping definition in dependence on the raiser of the invoice being processed

and process said invoice according to the selected input invoice mapping definition to

convert said invoice into said intermediate form.   Hamlin discloses an apparatus,

including means storing a plurality of input data mapping definitions, wherein the input

processing means is configured to select an input data mapping definition in

dependence on identifier of the data being processed and process said data according

to the selected input data mapping definition to convert said data into said intermediate

form (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line 57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col.

12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice.

Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4,

line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

modify the teachings of Francis in view of Pasetes by adopting the teachings of Hamlin

to provide an apparatus, including means storing a plurality of input invoice mapping

definitions, wherein the input processing means is configured to select an input invoice

mapping definition in dependence on the raiser of the invoice being processed and

process said invoice according to the selected input invoice mapping definition to

convert said invoice into said intermediate form. As suggested by Hamlin one would

have been motivated to reduce the burden associated with different requirements,

reduce the number of flaws and errors, and reduce expenses in terms of time and

money.

Re Claims 20 and 29:   Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention

supra but fails to explicitly disclose means storing a plurality of output invoice mapping

definitions, wherein the output processing means is configured to select an output

invoice mapping definition in dependence on the party being invoiced and process said

invoice according to the selected output invoice mapping definition to convert said

signal into the form required by the party being invoiced. Hamlin discloses an

apparatus, including means storing a plurality of output data mapping definitions,

wherein the output processing means is configured to select an output data mapping

definition in dependence on the party receiving the data and process said data

according to the selected output data mapping definition to convert said signal into the

form required by the party receiving the data (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line

57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col. 12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly

disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an

invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines

33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by

adopting the teachings of Hamlin to provide an apparatus, including means storing a

plurality of output invoice mapping definitions, wherein the output processing means is

configured to select an output invoice mapping definition in dependence on the party

being invoiced and process said invoice according to the selected output invoice

mapping definition to convert said signal into the form required by the party being

invoiced. As suggested by Hamlin one would have been motivated to reduce the burden

associated with different requirements, reduce the number of flaws and errors, and

reduce expenses in terms of time and money.

Re Claims 25 and 26: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra

but fails to explicitly disclose an apparatus, wherein the output processing means is

adapted to obtain an invoice destination id from each intermediate form invoice being

processed and select the appropriate output invoice mapping definition in dependence

thereon. Hamlin discloses an apparatus, wherein the output processing means is

adapted to obtain a data destination id from each intermediate form of data

being processed and select the appropriate output data mapping definition in

dependence thereon (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line 57+ -col. 11, line 3; col.

11, line 37-58; col. 12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is

an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-

34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by adopting the teachings of Hamlin to

provide an apparatus, wherein the output processing means is adapted to obtain an

invoice destination id from each intermediate form invoice being processed and select

the appropriate output invoice mapping definition in dependence thereon. As suggested

by Hamlin one would have been motivated to reduce the burden associated with

different requirements, reduce the number of flaws and errors, and reduce expenses in

terms of time and money.

Re Claim 30: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra but fails

to explicitly disclose an apparatus, wherein the received and transmitted invoices are

represented by data files. Hamlin discloses an apparatus, wherein the received and

transmitted data is represented by data files (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line

57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col. 12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly

disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an

invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines

33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by

adopting the teachings of Hamlin to provide an apparatus, wherein the received and

transmitted invoices are represented by data files. As suggested by Hamlin one would

have been motivated to reduce the burden associated with different requirements,

reduce the number of flaws and errors, and reduce expenses in terms of time and

money.

Re Claims 34,38,41 and 42: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed

invention supra but fails to explicitly disclose a method, including storing a plurality of

input invoice mapping definitions and selecting an invoice mapping definition from said

stored input invoice mapping definition for use in said electronic processing of said

received invoice in dependence on the raiser of said invoice. Hamlin discloses a

method, including storing a plurality of input data mapping definitions and selecting a

data mapping definition from said stored input data mapping definition for use in said

electronic processing of said received data in dependence on identifier of the data

(Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line 57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col. 12,

line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes

discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15;

col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the

teachings of Hamlin by adopting the teachings of Pasetes to provide a method,

including storing a plurality of input invoice mapping definitions and selecting an invoice

mapping definition from said stored input invoice mapping definition for use in said

electronic processing of said received invoice in dependence on the raiser of said

invoice. As suggested by Hamlin one would have been motivated to reduce the burden

associated with different requirements, reduce the number of flaws and errors, and

reduce expenses in terms of time and money.

Re Claims 35,39,40 and 43: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed

invention supra but fails to explicitly disclose a method, including storing a plurality of

output invoice mapping definitions and selecting an output invoice mapping definition

from said stored output invoice mapping definitions for using in said electronic

processing of said received invoice in dependence on the party being invoiced. Hamlin

discloses a method, including storing a plurality of output data mapping

definitions and selecting an output data mapping definition from said stored

output data mapping definitions for using in said electronic processing of said

received data in dependence on the party receiving the data (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28;

col. 10, line 57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col. 12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to

explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is

an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines

33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Hamlin by adopting the

teachings of Pasetes to provide a method, including storing a plurality of output

invoice mapping definitions and selecting an output invoice mapping

definition from said stored output invoice mapping definitions for using in said

electronic processing of said received invoice in dependence on the party being

invoiced. As suggested by Hamlin one would have been motivated to reduce the

burden associated with different requirements, reduce the number of flaws and errors,

and reduce expenses in terms of time and money.

Re Claims 44 and 46: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention

supra but fails to explicitly disclose wherein the received and transmitted invoices are

represented by data files: Hamlin discloses a method, wherein the received and

transmitted data are represented by data files (Hamlin, col. 3, lines 16-28; col. 10, line

57+ -col. 11, line 3; col. 11, line 37-58; col. 12, line 45- 56). Hamlin fails to explicitly

disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an

invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines

33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). As suggested by Hamlin one would have been motivated to

reduce the burden associated with different requirements, reduce the number of flaws

and errors, and reduce expenses in terms of time and money.

Claims 21-22 and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Francis and Pasetes as applied to claims 18 and 33 above, and

further in view of Baudoin, US Pat. No. 5,406,557.

Re Claim 21: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra but

fails to explicitly disclose an apparatus, including storage means for storing intermediate

form invoices produced by the input processing means, wherein the output processing

means reads invoices in said intermediate form from the storage means before

processing them. Baudoin discloses an apparatus, including storage means for storing

intermediate form data produced by the input processing means, wherein the output

processing means reads data in said intermediate form from the storage means before

processing them (Baudoin, col. 3, lines 20-49; col. 4 , lines 22-45; col. 6, lines 45+ -col. 7, line 7; Tables 2,3). Baudoin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by adopting the teachings of Baudoin to provide an apparatus, including storage means for storing intermediate form invoices produced by the input processing means, wherein the output processing means reads invoices in said intermediate form from the storage means before processing them. As suggested by Baudoin, one would have been motivated to have sufficient memory and speed to handle the tasks required.

Re Claim 22: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra but fails to explicitly disclose an apparatus, including storage means for storing invoices, received by the input processing means, so as to maintain a record of received invoices. Baudoin discloses an apparatus, including storage means for storing data, received by the input processing means, so as to maintain a record of received data (Baudoin, col. 3, lines 20-49; col. 4 , lines 22-45; col. 6, lines 45+ -col. 7, line 7; Tables 2,3). Baudoin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by adopting the teachings of Baudoin to provide

an apparatus, including storage means for storing invoices, received by the input

processing means, so as to maintain a record of received invoices. As suggested by

Baudoin, one would have been motivated to have sufficient memory and speed to

handle the tasks required.

Re Claim 36: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra but

fails to explicitly disclose a method, storing said intermediate form invoice and reading

said intermediate form invoice from where it has been stored before processing it into

said selected form. Baudoin discloses a method, storing said intermediate form data

and reading said intermediate form data from where it has been stored before

processing it into said selected form (Baudoin, col. 3, lines 20-49; col. 4 , lines 22-45;

col. 6, lines 45+ -col. 7, line 7; Tables 2,3). Baudoin fails to explicitly disclose wherein

the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col.

1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-

51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by adopting the

teachings of Baudoin to provide a method, storing said intermediate form invoice and

reading said intermediate form invoice from where it has been stored before processing

it into said selected form. As suggested by Baudoin, one would have been motivated to

have sufficient memory and speed to handle the tasks required.

Re Claim 37: Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention supra but

fails to explicitly disclose a method, storing said invoice as received in a received

invoice archive. Baudoin discloses a method, storing said data as received in a

received data archive (Baudoin, col. 3, lines 20-49; col. 4 , lines 22-45; col. 6, lines 45+ -

col. 7, line 7; Tables 2,3). Baudoin fails to explicitly disclose wherein the data is an

invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice (Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34;

col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43; col. 20, lines 47-51). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by adopting the teachings of Baudoin to

provide a method, storing said invoice as received in a received invoice archive. As

suggested by Baudoin, one would have been motivated to have sufficient memory and

speed to handle the tasks required.

    Claims 31-32 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Francis and Pasetes as applied to claims 18 and 33 above, and further in view of

Coleman, US Pat. No. 5,708,828.

Re Claims 31,32 and 45:   Francis in view of Pasetes discloses the claimed invention

supra but fails to explicitly disclose an apparatus, wherein the intermediate form

invoices are represented by data in tables of a database. Coleman discloses an

apparatus, wherein the intermediate form data is represented by data in tables of a

database (Coleman, abstract; col. 2, line 48-66; col. 3, line 42-57; col. 6, line 26-33; col.

6, line 58-67; col. 7, lines 1-14; col. 7, lines 35-44). Coleman fails to explicitly disclose

wherein the data is an invoice. Pasetes discloses wherein the data is an invoice

(Pasetes, col. 1, lines 12-34; col. 4, line 7-15; col. 8, lines 18-30; col. 16; lines 33-43;

col. 20, lines 47-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Francis and Pasetes by

adopting the teachings of Coleman to provide an apparatus, wherein the intermediate

form invoices are represented by data in tables of a database. As suggested by

Coleman, one would have been motivated to allow for multiple data base conversions to

be created easily and efficiently.

Response to Arguments

IDS

The submitted art has been considered.

103

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new

ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure: The following references relate to routing devices.

Yoo, Pat. No. 6,519,062; and

Jeffrey, Pat. No. 6,567,981.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not
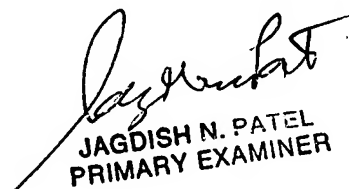
mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Sara Chandler whose telephone number is 571-272-

1186. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, James Kramer can be reached on 571-272-6783. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SMC

JAGDISH N. PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER